

our collection has the same pholidosis, clearly indicating that this is the same Andaman specimen. It is still in a fairly good state of preservation. Its current taxonomic status is:

Xenochrophis piscator (Schneider)

Hydrus piscator Schneider, 1799, *Hist. Amph.*, 1: 247 (East Indies; based on Russell's "Neeli Koea").

Tropidonotus striolatus Blyth, 1868, in Theobald's *Cat. Rept. Mus. Asiat. Soc.*: 55 (Andaman Islands), and *Rept. Brit. India*, 1876: 175.

Natrix piscator piscator Smith, 1940, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 42: 383.

Material examined: Holotype an adult male, 1020 mm in standard (snout—vent) length, tail 300 mm; loc., An-

daman Islands (India); Coll. Capt. Col. R.C. Tytler; Zoological Survey of India Regd. No. 7402 (46 a A.S.B.).

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40. ON A SMALL COLLECTION OF FISH FROM MIZORAM, INDIA

The state of Mizoram is surrounded by Assam to the north, Manipur and Burma to the east and south, Tripura and Bangladesh to the west, whose fish fauna is fairly well known. This note is based on the fish collected during the faunistic survey of the Teirei river and its tributaries undertaken by the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, under the leadership of Dr Shyamrup Biswas, Zoologist, in February–March 1984. A total of 17 species comprising 73 examples belonging to 14 genera, 8 families and 5 orders have been recorded.

The taxonomic account is arranged on the lines adopted in Jayaram (1981). The distribution of the species is given by Jayaram (loc. cit). Lengths of the species given in the note are standard lengths.

TAXONOMIC ACCOUNT

Order	CYPRINIFORMES
Family	CYPRINIDAE
Genus	<i>Esomus</i> Swainson

Esomus danricus (Hamilton)

Cyprinus danrica Hamilton, 1822. *Fish. Ganges*: 325, 390; pl. 16, fig. 88 (type—locality: ponds and ditches of Bengal).

Nuria danrica Day 1889, *Fauna Br. India, Fish.* 1: 334.

Material:

(i) 2 exs., 35 mm, 46 mm; 26 February 1984.

(ii) 3 exs., 42 mm, 48 mm; 27 February 1984.

This larvicidal fish is provided with a lateral line which pierces only 4-6 anterior scales. This fish is popularly called "Flying Barb". It is also known from Malaya and Thailand.

Genus *Danio* Hamilton

Danio (*Danio*) *aequipinnatus* (McClelland)

Perilampus aequipinnatus McClelland, 1839, *Asiat. Res.* 19(2): 393, pl. 60, fig. 1 (type—locality: Assam)

Danio (*Danio*) *aequipinnatus* Hora & Mukerji, 1934, *Rec. Indian Mus.* 36(1): 133 (synoptic table to species of the subgenus *Danio*).

Material: 3 exs., 48 mm to 60 mm; 27 February 1984.

Hora & Mukerji (1934) gave a synopsis not only of the Indian and Burmese species of *Danio* then known, but also of *Brachydanio*. In this synopsis *Danio aequipinnatus* (McClelland), *Danio strigillifer* Myers and *D. malabaricus* Jerdon are shown as three distinct species. Hora & Nair (1941) synonymised *D. strigillifer* and *D. malabaricus* with *D. aequipinnatus*. Mukerji (1934) again synonymised *D. browni* Regan with *D. aequipinnatus*.

This species has a preorbital spinous process directed backwards at the anterior rim of the orbit derived from the lacrymal bone.

***Danio (Brachydanio) rerio* (Hamilton)**

Cyprinus rerio Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 323, 390 (type—locality : R. Kosi).

Danio (Brachydanio) rerio, Hora & Mukerji, 1934, *Rec. Indian Mus.* 36(1) : 130, 131 (synoptic table to species of the subgenus *Brachydanio*).

Material:

9 exs., 21 mm to 23 mm; 27 February 1984.

This species in this area entirely lacks the lateral line and shows a tendency towards the reduction in number of anal fin rays 12–15 v. the normal 15–16.

Genus *Rasbora* Bleeker

***Rasbora daniconius daniconius* (Hamilton)**

Cyprinus daniconius Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 327, pl. 15, fig. 89 (type—locality : rivers of southern Bengal) *Rasbora daniconius* Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 584, pl. 146, fig. 2.

Material:

(i) 13 exs., 28 mm to 74 mm; 26 February 1984.

(ii) 5 exs., 43 mm to 65 mm; 27 February 1984.

Seven out of the 18 specimens of this species have an incomplete lateral line extending either up to the base of anal fin or between it and base of the caudal fin. The specimens also show a marked increase in the number of dorsal and anal fin rays. Dorsal fin rays 10 (ii, 8) v. the normal 9 (ii, 7) and anal fin rays vary from 8 to 9 (ii–iii, 6) v. the normal 7 (ii, 5).

Genus *Amblypharyngodon* Bleeker

***Amblypharyngodon mola* (Hamilton)**

Cyprinus mola Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 334, 392, pl. 38, fig. 92 (type—locality : ponds and freshwater rivers in every part of the Gangetic provinces).

Amblypharyngodon mola Day, 1889, *Fauna Br. India, Fish* 1: 291, fig. 101.

Material: 3 exs., 41 mm to 49 mm; 26 February 1984.

Lateral lines of these specimens pierce upto 14–15 anterior scales. Anal fins show a marked increase in the number of rays 9–10 (iii, 6–7) v. normal 7 (ii, 5) and dorsal fin rays 9–10 (ii, 7–8) v. the normal 9 (ii, 7).

Genus *Barilius* Hamilton

***Barilius barila* (Hamilton)**

Cyprinus barila Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 267, 384 (type—locality : rivers of northern Bengal)

Barilius barila Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 594, pl. 149, fig. 4.

Material:

2 exs., 91 mm, 105 mm; 27 February 1984.

Day (1878) described this species as having only one pair of rostral barbels. It has two pairs of barbels — a rostral pair equal to half of eye diameter and a maxillary pair shorter than the rostral pair. Hora (1921) has already recorded this species with two pairs of barbels from Manipur.

Genus *Puntius* Hamilton

***Puntius chola* (Hamilton)**

Cyprinus chola Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 312, 389 (type—locality: northeastern parts of Bengal).

Barbus chola Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 571, pl. 142, fig. 4.

Material:

3 exs., 43 mm to 57 mm; 26 February 1984.

Chaudhury (1911) recorded this species from Yunnan Province, China. Generally a dark blotch is present between the 21st and 23rd scales on the lateral line besides a dark mark at the base of anterior dorsal fin ray.

***Puntius sophore* (Hamilton)**

Cyprinus sophore Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 310, 389 (type—locality: ponds of Bengal)

Barbus stigma Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 579, pl. 141, fig. 5.

Material:

1 ex., 19 mm; 26 February 1984.

Chaudhury (1916) clarified the errors in Hamilton's original description of this species in respect of the barbels and also the erroneous identification of Day (1878) of material not referable to this species at all. *P. sophore* is without barbels and is a common species throughout India. there is no justification for retaining *P. stigma* without barbels as a separate species. As the name *sophore* has priority over *stigma* the latter is synonymised

The specimen has a dark blotch, more or less distinct at the base of the caudal fin.

Puntius ticto ticto (Hamilton)

Cyprinus ticto Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 314, 389, pl. 8, fig. 87 (Type-locality: southern parts of Bengal) *Barbus ticto* Day, 1889, *Fauna Br. India, Fish 1*: 325.

Material:

1 ex., 40 mm; 26 February 1984.

The specimen has an incomplete lateral line which is perforated only up to the 7th anterior scale. A dark spot is present on the third and fourth scales and a second dark spot above the lateral line over the 18—20 scales.

Family COBITIDAE
Genus *Botia* Gray

Botia (Botia) dario (Hamilton)

Cobitis dario Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 354, 394, pl. 29, fig. 95 (type—locality: northern rivers of Bengal).

Botia dario Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 606, pl. 154, fig. 1.

Material:

1 ex., 52 mm; 1 March 1984.

Hamilton (1822) described this species along with *Botia geto* from north Bengal. Gunther (1868 : 366) regarded *B. geto* as a young form of *B. dario*. Hora (1932 : 573) considered *B. geto* as a juvenile form of *B. dario*. Comparison of a large series of specimens of the two species show that the different colour pattern of the two species is very closely related with each other and hence has no specific value. It is relevant to mention here that *B. geto* of Day's later works (1878, 1889) is a different species and was described by Hora (1932) as *Botia dayi*.

The single specimen of this species in this collection has seven vertical broad bands.

Genus *Lepidocephalus* Bleeker

Lepidocephalus (Lepidocephalichthys) guntea (Hamilton)

Cobitis guntea Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 353, 394 (type—locality: ponds and freshwater rivers of Bengal)

Lepidocephalichthys guntea Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 609, pl. 155, fig. 4

Material:

(i) 11 exs., 41 mm to 54 mm; 26 February 1984

(ii) 1 ex., 52 mm; 27 February 1984

Order SILURIFORMES
Family BAGRIDAE
Genus *Mystus* Scopoli

Mystus bleekeri (Day)

Bagrus keletius (nec. Valenciennes) Bleeker, 1846, *Nat. Geneesk Arch. Ned. Ind* (2) 3: 135 (type—locality: Bengal)

Mystus bleekeri Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 451, pl. 101, fig. 1 (new name for *Bagrus keletius* Bleeker)

Material:

1 ex., 97 mm; 26 February 1984

Family HETEROPNEUSTIDAE
Genus *Heteropneustes* Muller

Heteropneustes fossilis (Bloch)

Silurus fossilis Bloch, 1794, *Naturl. Ausland. Fische* 8: 46, pl. 370, fig. 2 (type—locality: Tranquebar)

Saccobranchus fossilis Day, 1889, *Fauna Br. India, Fish 1*: 125, fig. 53.

Material:

(i) 1 ex., 110 mm; 26 February 1984.

(ii) 1 ex., 127 mm; 27 February 1984.

Order ATHERINIFORMES
Family CYPRINODONTIDAE
Genus *Aplocheilus* McClelland

Aplocheilus panchax (Hamilton)

Esox panchax Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 211, 380, p. 3, fig. 69 (type—locality: ditches and ponds of Bengal)

Haplocheilus panchax Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 523, pl. 121, fig. 3.

Material:

2 exs., 33 mm, 37 mm; 26 February 1984.

It is a widely distributed species of the Oriental region.

Order CHANNIFORMES
Family CHANNIDAE
Genus *Channa* Scopoli

Channa punctatus (Bloch)

Ophicephalus punctatus Bloch, 1793, *Naturl. Ausland. Fische* 7: 139, pl. 358 (type—locality: Malabar coast)

Ophiocephalus punctatus Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 367, pl. 78, fig. 1.

Material:

3 exs., 95 mm to 110 mm; 27 February 1984.

Order PERCIFORMES
Family NANDIDAE
Genus *Badis* Bleeker

Badis badis (Hamilton)

Lambrus badis Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 70, 368, pl.

28, fig. 23 (type—locality: ponds and ditches throughout the Gangetic provinces)

Badis buchmanani Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 128, pl. 31, fig. 6.

Material:

(i) 2 exs., 37 mm, 38 mm; 26 February 1984.

(ii) 1 ex., 50 mm; 1 March 1984.

Family GOBIIDAE
Genus *Glossogobius* Gill

Glossogobius giuris giuris (Hamilton)

Gobius giuris Hamilton, 1822, *Fish. Ganges*: 51, 366, pl. 33, fig. 15 (type—locality: ponds and freshwater rivers of Gangetic Provinces)

Gobius giuris Day, 1878, *Fish. India*: 294, pl. 66, fig. 1.

Material:

3 exs., 60 mm, 74 mm; 26 February 1984.

It is one of the most widely distributed species of the Oriental region.

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